

Evening Public Ledger

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It was not for the popularity of the plan among the theorists he would not have had the courage to make the suggestion.

It is not so popular among practical men. They understand that the housing shortage is due to the virtual cessation of building during the war and to the high prices of all material and labor at the present time. Investors do not see the way to get an assured income from money put in houses for rent. Good prices can be secured from tenants today, but there is a confident hope that in one or two years the cost of building will have fallen to such an extent that the houses built this year will seek in vain for tenants that will pay any income on what the buildings cost.

Practical men also recall that it costs the city much more than a private builder to erect a building, and they realize that the plan of publicly owned houses involves in the long run a gift to the occupants of the houses of the difference between a fair return of the investment and a fair return of the investment in property built under better conditions by private landlords.

The politicians of Rome used to appease the multitude by giving them bread and the circus. It is no different for modern American politicians to plan to appease the homeless by giving them houses at public expense.

ALLIED STATESMEN AS BOOSTERS FOR LENINE

All Russia, Not the Bolshevik Minority, Has Been Fighting Poland and Japan

AMERICANS have reason to be grateful for the journalistic foresight and enterprise that has given them Colonel Edward M. House as an eye-witness and reporter of events through which Europe is moving to a new crisis that may profoundly affect the drift of civilization for generations.

Russian armies under the banners of the soviet are jostling at the back doors of western civilization. They are inflamed by victory. The culmination of which Europe has dreaded ever since the day when the armistice was signed, an aggressive union between dominant cliques in Russia and Germany, seems nearer today than it ever seemed before.

A stupendous game in which the stakes are imperial power and immeasurable commercial advantage is being fought out silently between the older governments and a new force that looms as a monstrous European scourge, a Bolshevik army, a hooded and masked apparition. It may end in a sudden astonishing return to general peace. And it may end in a fresh trampling down of peoples. Advice, dispassionately written, untainted by ignorance or prejudice and inspired by the cold and hard but dependable truth, is badly needed in this hour of crisis. It is imperative that we see through and beyond the fogs of propaganda that rise above a conflict in which our own rights and interests are deeply involved. This is what Colonel House is providing through dispatches to the Public Ledger.

It is altogether unlikely that any of the glorious and pitiful sacrifices contemplated by the Polish people can stop the Russian advance south of the boundaries fixed for the new Polish state at the Paris conference. The Russians are driving straight for East Prussia, which happens to be the last brooding place of a demoted pan-Germanism. The Germans have everything to gain and little to lose by a union with the Slav soviet against the world.

Who can measure the irony of events after remembering that the Moscow government made repeated offers of peace to the new Polish Government before the outbreak of the war, carried out by the Japanese in Siberia, which led straight to the heart of Continental Europe? The soviet regime in Russia was tottering and discredited. But the aggression of the Polish rulers, who drove far into Russian territory to reclaim soil that was Polish under the Russian crown, and the advance of the Japanese in Siberia revitalized the Lenin government and gave it the cause and the cry without which it surely would have vanished before now.

Upon the ground of a common patriotism almost all Russians forget their differences. The Bolsheviks are a small minority in the empire. Virtually all of Russia is behind the advance on Poland. Yet the world is being led to believe that it is witnessing a Bolshevik victory. Undeserved prestige for the fanatical clique at Moscow is the chief result of the ill-advised Polish advance.

As the Russians have moved forward the obduracy of the German confederates at Spa has increased. Their unwillingness to pay to the Allies such war debts as are justified by considerations of German honor and the decency of the world has become more apparent every day. Unquestionably there are groups in Germany quite ready to take the fullest possible advantage of the fanaticism which at Moscow springs not from unity for any one nation, but from a modern civilization.

Pan-Germans have never ceased to dream of German supremacy. German minds and the German military spirit as leading influences amid the measureless resources of the Russian empire. Oddly enough the policy of some of the allied governments since the end of the war has tended steadily to drive the Germans and the Russian together in an outlawed community great enough to leave a perpetual shadow and a perpetual menace over the whole of Europe.

Neither France nor England has the ability to organize and maintain new armies for a long campaign. To believe otherwise is to entertain an extremely perilous delusion. Formal parleys, conferences and diplomatic maneuvering may be necessary to stop the Russian march westward. The allied statesmen at Spa may be driven to make terms with a government which until now they have treated with withering disdain. And that is not by any means the worst of the present situation.

The savors of Russia. The soviet will have a new lease of life because of the governments in Europe were not content to let them disappear, as they were bound to disappear before long, in the gradual process of democratic evolution.

When Colonel House implies that all plans made at Paris in the interest of peace and for the safety of democratic principles are endangered by the Russian advance he presents to America an entirely new phase of the European problem. If at the last the Allies are compelled to act in accordance with the rules of self-preservation American interests may be thrust temporarily into the background. For the time being we are merely spectators at a game in which we invested very heavily. The decisions are left to others.

America's policy toward Russia, harshly questioned in some quarters, has been consistent and disinterested. Unlike some of the European governments we registered no claims against the Russian people. We asked for nothing. Washington contended very properly that there was no democracy, no equality, no freedom, no common justice under the Moscow government and that there was, instead, a new and revolting sort of tyranny maintained by a minority accidentally in power.

That view is sustained by the record of all observers in Russia. The British Labor party's official delegation of investigators found the masses in slavery and a rising tide of anti-Bolshevik feeling even among the peasants. Even Emma Goldman was moved, after an involuntary experience with the soviet, to reject and denounce their theories of administration. No impartial student of sovietism has survived direct contacts with the Lenin regime without experiencing complete disillusionment.

The refusal of the United States Government to deal with Lenin was in every way consistent with a regard for the principles of free government and the rights of the Russian majority. Meanwhile, however, Mr. Wilson's administration supported the destructive commercial blockade of Russia, which, viewed from any angle, appears to have been inspired by commercial rather than by moral or ethical concerns. Because of that blockade all Russian men, women and children, non-Bolshevik as well as Bolshevik, were denied food, medicines, hospital supplies and the materials necessary for industrial and agricultural development.

To starve out an erratic minority the Allies were willing to put intolerable pressure upon a whole nation. That scheme was doomed to fail and it has failed.

EUGENIE'S TRIUMPH

THE ex-Empress Eugenie expressly stated that she would leave no memoirs or autobiography. Posterity is thus deprived of an intimate insight into what was actually the most significant portion of her extraordinary life.

The imperial period was feverish, melodramatic, flashy, artificial, closing with a crash of reality so overwhelming that for years it was difficult to comprehend clearly the role she played in separating the events of events into which she was drawn from those which she dominated.

France quickly acquired the habit of blaming Eugenie for most of the ills arising from the disastrous war with Prussia. Unquestionably neither by temperament nor by training was she fitted to interfere in matters of state.

She was, however, merely a factor in the long series contributing to the debacle. Bismarck adroitly played his sinister role. The French nation itself during the fifties and sixties of the last century was the victim of frequent and perturbing revolutions. But Eugenie was a showy figure and hence a convenient scapegoat.

The sober judgment of history is unlikely to result in either a wholesale whitewash or an utter condemnation of the once dazzling empress. The half-century of obscurity into which she was plunged merely serves to confirm an excellent executive, there are some things in his official record which the republican leaders will use with powerful effect against him if he should be nominated.

In other words, it was a clarion call to Republicans to sit up and notice that the Democrats were ready to furnish ammunition to blow Pittsford off the political map.

WARRING DEMOCRATS

Senator Wallace's Famous Attack on Pittsford—Present-Day Democratic Inherent Scraping Tendencies

By GEORGE NOX McCAIN

WILLIAM A. WALLACE, United States senator from Pennsylvania from 1875 to 1881, was the last Democrat elected to that high office in this state.

He was of Scotch-Irish descent, as his name implied. With all his impressive frugality of temperament it did not prevent him from being a party man in the most irreverent sense of the word. Always behind his back, however.

"BILL" WALLACE traveled on a combination of astuteness and dignity in his pathway to high preferment. He never forgave an injury. Whether he ever took a favor or not I do not know.

He resented the intrusion of young blood into the councils of his party, and so it came about after he had dropped out of the United States Senate, and was succeeded by John I. Mitchell, compromise Republican, he slipped back into the rank and file of Democracy and likewise to the minor position of a state senator for one term.

When Wallace found himself in the state Senate he conducted himself as though he were still a member of the United States Senate and the head of his party.

He carried with him a fine collection of petty hatreds, unhealed sores and personal animosities, which from time to time he exhibited to the public much to the amusement and chagrin of his party.

The largest and finest collection that he ever placed on exhibition was when he and his friends tried to plant a dynamite bomb under Robert E. Pattison, then a candidate for his second nomination for Governor.

Prior to the late San Francisco convention the Democrats of the country chortled, chuckled, thrust tongue in cheek, but thumbs in derision and did other cute things to indicate that the so-called Republicans had been around in a circle by the party bosses.

Since the display at San Francisco, when their alleged untimely representatives were paraded like prize animals with a ring in the nose at an agricultural fair, there has not been a single grin of amusement or grimace of ridicule from any one of them.

Somewhere sold out somebody else at San Francisco, and well they know it. It is just what "Bill" Wallace tried to do but failed in the case of "Bob" Pittsford. The Democratic party, state and national, has the proud record of having more hatchet men and political enemies in its ranks than any other party on the face of the good Lord's beautiful green earth.

William A. Wallace was the ambushed foe of the second Pittsford campaign.

ONE of the most sinister attacks in the history of partisan politics in Pennsylvania was made by William A. Wallace, Democrat, against Robert E. Pittsford, Republican, in 1890.

SHORT CUTS

"Till for tat's a useful bolus. Let it work!" said Balus bolus.

The Germans count on wearing the treaty away with interpretative reservations.

Why not call the third party the Sour Apple Tree? One can hang any old thing on that.

How can the third party expect to make any headway unless it has a candidate from Ohio?

During the present heated term it is hard to concentrate the mind on the possibility of a coal crisis.

The ship conference demonstrates that Germany can't say, "I'm agreeable" without disproving it.

The third party platform will at least demonstrate the falsity of the ancient allegation that the squirrel cannot sing for nuts.

Perhaps the man who stole linen from a steamship in a local dock acted in a moment of temporary exasperation at the meagerness of the modern shirt-tail.

The dope on Ohio election figures, so prominent in the news these days, will cause old-timers to cogitate on how old General Grover would revel in them if he were alive.

A message from Berlin says that he plebiscites in West Prussia and East Prussia show an overwhelmingly German majority. Oh, well, serve 'em right, serve 'em right!

The shipping board is unable to sell twenty-one wooden ships built as part of the war program. Nobody wants them. Why doesn't some enterprising individual take one of them to a shore resort and turn it into a hotel and restaurant?

Patriotism grows popular at the track. At the Aqueduct, Liberty Girl captured the opening six-furlong sprint and American Eagle took second money. We are willing to bet fifteen cents that Slacker wasn't in the running.

There is hope in some quarters that La Follette may create harmony in the third party but it is a hope ill-founded. Harmony is something never turned out at the La Follette factory. Its exclusive output is hammers.

The case of the Canadian ace, winner of the Croix de Guerre, jailed for thirty days in Canada for stealing the opium and American Eagle took second money. We are willing to bet fifteen cents that Slacker wasn't in the running.

NOW FOR A NOAH AND A TRIP—WHERE TO?



COMMITTEE OF 48 BALKS AT 'LIBERAL' CHALK MARK

Unhappy Third Party Elements Swing to Both Sides of Midway Line Fixed for Permanent Standing Place

By CLINTON W. GILBERT
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Chicago, July 13.—Mr. Record, Mr. Pinchot, Mr. McCurdy and the other men who organized the Committee of Forty-eight are learning that the hardest thing in the world to be is a liberal. That has been found out several times since the war ended.

Many men wanted to see Mr. Hoover nominated by the Republicans because they thought that in this way they would have a chance to vote for a liberal on the Republican ticket. But the Republicans wouldn't have Hoover.

Then again many men wanted to see Mr. McAdoo nominated at San Francisco because they thought they would like to vote for McAdoo as a liberal on the Democratic ticket. But the Democrats would not have McAdoo.

This being the case, the Committee of Forty-eight decided to use together a lot of elements into a formal party of their own where all unhappy liberals might find a home. They said, "Over here at the extreme right are the Republican and Democratic parties. And over here on the extreme left is the Socialist party. Just here" (and they made a chalk mark), "midway between them, is the place for a liberal party. There is lots of room here and there are many others who are disgusted with the old parties, but who won't go over to Debs and socialism."

It was a lovely vision. Everybody had it more or less, a vision of a midway party in which everybody would be comfortable for the man to vote who believes in progress, but who doesn't believe in revolution, who believes in the old parties, but who doesn't believe in the new parties. A similar note is sounded by acting Secretary of State Davis in thanking the foreign ministers of the various republics for their messages of good wishes in connection with the anniversary of this nation's birth.

The replies of President Wilson, made public today, follow: "On this anniversary of the proclamation of Argentine independence I offer to your excellency and the Argentine people my best wishes for your personal welfare and for your happiness and prosperity, at the same time thanking your excellency for the friendly and appreciated message conveyed in your courteous telegram of Independence Day felicitations."

To President Guerra, of Bolivia: "Pray accept my sincere thanks for your cordial congratulations. I assure your excellency of my best wishes for your personal welfare and for the continued prosperity of the Bolivian nation."

WILL HONOR COOLIDGE

Northampton Trade Body Prepares for Candidate's Notification

Northampton, Mass., July 13.—The Chamber of Commerce has appointed a committee of 100 citizens to have charge of the arrangements for the notification of Governor Coolidge of his nomination for Vice President by the Republican convention.

The affair will take place on Allen Street, Northampton, July 27. Subcommittees on parade decorations, reception and other features are included.

PRESIDENT THANKS SOUTH AMERICANS

Independence Day Messages From Heads of Latin States Greatly Appreciated

Washington, July 13.—President Wilson, replying to the congratulatory Independence Day messages from presidents of the various South and Central American republics, expresses the hope that the cordial relations now existing between the Latin American nations and the United States may continue. A similar note is sounded by acting Secretary of State Davis in thanking the foreign ministers of the various republics for their messages of good wishes in connection with the anniversary of this nation's birth.

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To President Guerra, of Bolivia: "Pray accept my sincere thanks for your cordial congratulations. I assure your excellency of my best wishes for your personal welfare and for the continued prosperity of the Bolivian nation."

To President Pessoa, of Brazil: "I have received your excellency's kind message of congratulations on this anniversary of American independence and cordially reciprocate, in the name of the people of the United States and in my own, the good wishes expressed by the Brazilian people and yourself."

To President Chamorro, of Nicaragua: "Thanking your excellency sincerely for your cordial and appreciative Independence Day message, I ask your acceptance of my best wishes for your personal welfare and the prosperity of the Nicaraguan people."

A FOUR-YEAR PROGRAM FOR PHILADELPHIA

Things on which the people expect the new administration to concentrate its attention: The Delaware river bridge. A drydock big enough to accommodate the largest battleship in the navy. Development of the rapid transit system. A convention hall. A building for the Free Library. A new museum. Enlargement of the water supply. Homes to accommodate the city population.

SCHOOL IN GOOD HANDS

THE appointment of John Louis Haney as president pro tem. of the Central High School insures a thoroughly capable direction of that institution pending a final decision. Professor Haney is not only a scholar of real distinction, especially emphasized in his Coleridge researches, but he combines a virile personality with clearness of vision and a well grounded knowledge of educational needs.

Doctor Thompson, it must be admitted, is not an easy man to replace. In Professor Haney's hands, however, the standards of the school should be authoritatively maintained. His years of experience as a member of the faculty and the esteem in which he is held by both alumni and pupils guarantee smooth, efficient progressive administration.

THE HUMAN SCRAP HEAP

THE determination of the Friends at their general conference in Cape May to devote themselves to prison reform so that the United States should not enlarge the human scrap heap is just what is to be expected of the kind of people attending the conference.

They feel a grave concern over our ineffective prison methods. They desire that the treatment of law breakers should be so conducted as to restore the offender to his place among the decent citizens. Many other persons have the same desire. A found expression in the first constitution of Indiana, which directed that the criminal laws should be framed for the purpose of reforming the criminal. But many years have passed since this constitution was adopted. We have not made very fast progress in the desired direction.

If the local Friends will begin their study of prison reform by an examination of the conditions that prevail in the Philadelphia penitentiary, they will be able to hasten the day when a more intelligent treatment of the law breaker is the rule.

A HEALTH LESSON HEADED

IT HAS been strongly hinted, if not proved, that the arrival of the influenza plague in this country in 1918 was hastened by indifferent quarantine inspection. That the authorities are taking fewer chances today is illustrated by their reluctance this year to permit the travelers on the Cunard liner Imperator to land without a rigid examination of the steerage passengers.

Laxity of the French medical staff in Cherbourg, when the vessel sailed for America, is given as the reason for the twenty-four hours delay off Staten Island. Particular notice was made for indications of typhus for now rampant in some parts of Europe.

Evidences have been multiplying of late that the medical inspection is carefully undertaken abroad. Many immigrants, especially those coming from Mediterranean countries, where contagious diseases of the eye prevail, have been ordered sent home. The scrutiny on this side of the water is well worth while and first-class passengers who chafe because their landing is postponed will be wise in seasoning their irritation with a little philosophical gratitude.

It would be criminal at this day to disregard the tragic lesson of the "flu."

BREAD AND THE CIRCUS

SOCIAL reformers have for years been urging the adoption in the United States of the British plan for meeting a housing shortage. British municipalities build houses for the working men and rent them. They clear out old tenements, open new streets in the district and build modern structures. This seems to be simpler than condemning the insanitary buildings and forcing the owners to remove them.

The housing shortage in New York has led the president of the borough of Manhattan to urge Governor Smith to call a special session of the Legislature for the passage of a constitutional amendment which will permit the cities of the state to build houses and apartments. Such an amendment was urged on the Legislature during its regular session, but adjournment came before it was acted on.

It may safely be inferred that the borough president is considering the effect of his recommendation upon his political fortunes. He wishes it to appear on the record that he has done what he could to deliver the tenants from the profligate landlords. If nothing comes of it he can put the responsibility on the governor. But if